# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entrie	s—complete applicable s	ections		
1. Nan	ne			
historic Cari	negie Libraries of K	ansas (TR)		
and or common	Banc			
2. Loc	ation			
street & numbe	r See individual	forms		not for publication
city, town		vicinity of		
state	code	e county		code
3. Clas	ssification			
Category  district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private _X_ both Public Acquisition _N/An process _N/Abeing considered	Status X occupied unoccupied X work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture _X commercial _X educational entertainment _X government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
name See	individual forms			
city, town		vicinity of	state	
5. Loc	ation of Lega	al Descriptio	n	
courthouse, reg	istry of deeds, etc. See	individual forms		The state of the s
street & number				
city, town			state	
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing S	urveys	
title See	individual forms	has this prop	erty been determined elig	jible? yes no
date			federal state	countyloca
depository for s	urvey records			
city, town			state	

# 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	A original site
good	ruins	X altered	moved date
fair	unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Carnegie Libraries of Kansas (c. 1902-1921) are located throughout the state, with the greatest concentration being in the southeast. Sixty-three Carnegie funded libraries were built in Kansas during the first three decades of the Twentieth Century, twenty-eight of these libraries are included in this nomination. To a large extent, the nominated libraries reflect the distribution and design of the total group of sixty-three libraries.

Prior to 1910, the Carnegie Corporation did not provide design guidelines for the libraries that it funded. Many of the early libraries were expensive examples of the Beaux Arts style with little focus on floor plan and space efficiency. Twenty of the nominated libraries were constructed after 1910, a total of thirty-six libraries were constructed in Kansas after 1910. These libraries reflect high space utilization and often include full basements, although the raised basement is a design element employed in earlier libraries as well.

The three-bay, one-story, Neo-Classical library predominates the nominated group of twenty-eight and the total group of sixty-three. Sixteen of the nominated libraries employ the Neo-Classical design, five of the buildings were constructed before 1910 and eleven of the buildings were constructed after 1910. The eclectic styles, which were often based on the Neo-Classical, rank second, with one such library built before 1910 and four such libraries built after 1910. The rarer styles include the two Jacobethan libraries, the two Utilitarian libraries, and the one Beaux Arts library built after 1910 and the one Prairie style library and the one Second Renaissance Revival library built before 1910.

Most of the nominated libraries are one-story, three bay wide by one bay deep structures with a projecting central entry pavilion. The use of native limestone is evident in some of the libraries but the most common material combination is brick with a limestone foundation. While there is some tendancy toward a vernacular interpretation to the design ornamentation of these libraries, the general approach verges on the high style.

The interiors of many of the libraries have been altered, beamed ceilings have been covered with acoustic tiles and the original varnished woodwork has been painted. Other changes, such as the replacement of windows, doors, and staircases have occurred. In general, the nominated libraries maintain their original floorplans and their original detailing, maintaining a high degree of structural and architectural integrity.

None of the libraries are particularly large and many of the libraries are facing serious space shortages, increasing the possibility that insensitive additions will mar the character of the library buildings or that the libraries will be torn down. Most of the libraries stand very near to the central business districts in the towns that they serve. Insensitive changes to their exterior in particular would completely alter the characteristics that these familiar landmarks embody.

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Inv	entory of Carnegie Libraries in Kansas		
	SITE	DATE	INVENTORY NUMBER
1.	Anthony Public (Carnegie) Library (Harper County) 104 N. Springfield Anthony, Kansas 67003 Owner: City of Anthony Lots 22,23,24; Block 34.	c. 1911	77–0180 <del>–0003</del>
2.	Burlington Carnegie Free Library (Coffey County) 201 N. Third Burlington, Kansas 66839 Owner: City of Burlington Lots 8,9; Block 35.	c. 1912	31-0690-0015
3.	Canton Township Carnegie Library (McPherson County) Box 336 Canton, Kansas 67428 Owner: Canton Township Lots 7,8,9,10,11; Block 2.	c. 1921	113-0790-0001
4.	Chanute Public (Carnegie) Library (Neosho County) 102 S. Lincoln Chanute, Kansas 66720 Owner: City of Chanute Lots 2,3; Block 39.	c. 1906	133-0870-0067
5.	Cherryvale Public (Carnegie) Library (Montgomery County) 329 E. Main Cherryvale, Kansas 67335 Owner: City of Cherryvale Lots 7,8; Block 39.	c. 1913	0930-0005 125 <del>-0939-0006</del>
6.	Clay Center Carnegie Library (Clay County) 706 Sixth Street Clay Center, Kansas 67432 Owner: City of Clay Center Lots 12,13; Block 36.	c. 1912	27-0980-0008

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Conti	nuation sheet	2	Item number	7	Page 2
7.	Coffeyville Car (Montgomery C 415 West 8th Coffeyville, Ka Owner: City of Lots 7,8; Block	nnsas 67337 Coffeyville	rary Building	c. 1912	125 <del>-2670-</del> 0019
8.	Columbus Public 205 N. Kansas Columbus, Kansa Owner: City of Lots 9,10; Bloc	as 66725 Columbus	ary (Cherokee County)	c. 1913	21-1100-0008
9.	Council Grove (303 W. Main Str Council Grove, Owner: City of Lots 1,2,3; Blo	reet Kansas 66846 E Council Grove	y (Morris County)	c. 1917	127-1180-0074
10.	Downs Carnegie 504 S. Morgan Downs, Kansas 6 Owner: City of Lots 8-12; Bloo	Downs	County)	c. 1906	141-1400-0002
11.	El Dorado Carne 101 S. Star El Dorado, Kans Owner: Dean Se N 4º Lot 3, Lo	sas 67042 eeber	ding (Butler County)	c. 1912	15-1540-0004
12.	The Way College 1300 West 12th Emporia, Kansas Owner: Way Col Located on the SW, NE1/4,Sec. running thence	e of Emporia Avenue	the 6th p.m., ce N. 80 rods,	c. 1902	111-1660-0002

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Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library (Lyon County) cont.

place of beg., except a tract beg. at the S,SW1/4 Sec. 9, thence N. 670 ft., thence E. 540 ft., thence S. 250 ft, thence W. 374 ft., thence S. 420 ft., thence W. 166 ft. to the point of beg. in Lyon Co., KS and Lots Numbered 61,63,65,67,71, and the N. 30 ft. of Lot F all in Block numbered 3, in College Hill Addition to the City of Emporia.

- 13. Fort Scott Public (Carnegie) Library (Bourbon County) c. 1902 11-1830-0016 201 South National Fort Scott, Kansas 66701 Owner: City of Fort Scott Lots 1,(N1/2) 3; Block 123
- c. 1906 37-2050-0003 14. Girard Carnegie Library (Crawford County) 128 W. Prairie Girard, Kansas 66743 Owner: City of Girard
- 15. Herington Carnegie Public Library (Dickinson County) c. 1915 41-2420-0006 102 S. Broadway Herington, Kansas 67449 Owner: City of Herington
- 16. Hutchinson Public (Carnegie) Library Buildingc. 1903-155-2660-0011 1904 Labor Temple (Reno County) 427 N. Main Hutchinson, Kansas 67501
- 95-2850-0006 c. 1914 17. Kingman Carnegie Library (Kingman County) 455 N. Main

Kingman, Kansas 67068 Owner: City of Kingman

Owner: Hutchinson Labor Building Association

Lots 17,18; Block 14.

Lots 2,4; Block 40.

Lots 13,14,15; Block 17.

Lots 101,103,105; Original Town.

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Continuation sheet Item number Page c. 1914 105-3189-005 18. Lincoln Carnegie Library (Lincoln County) 203 S. Third Lincoln, Kansas 67455 Owner: City of Lincoln Lot 7; Block 32. c. 1911 139-3360-0003 19. Lyndon Carnegie Library (Osage County) 127 E. Sixth, P.O. Box 563 Lyndon, Kansas 66451 Owner: Valleybrook Township Lots 4-9; Block 22. 161-3490-0016 20. Manhattan Carnegie Library Building (Riley County) c. 1904 Fifth and Poyntz Manhattan, Kansas 66502 Owner: Riley County Board of Commissioners Lot 413; Ward 2. 21. Osborne Public (Carnegie) Library (Osborne County) c. 1913 141-4230-0006 Third and Main Osborne, Kansas 67473 Owner: City of Osborne All of Block 12. c. 1912 99-4250-0010 22. Oswego Public (Carnegie) Library (Labette County) 704 Fourth Street Oswego, Kansas 67356 Owner: City of Oswego Lots 1,2,3,4; Block 32. c. 1914 115-4410-0024 23. Peabody Township Carnegie Library (Marion County) 214 Walnut Peabody, Kansas 66866 Owner: Peabody Township Lots 80,82,84 on Walnut. 24. Sterling Free Public (Carnegie) Library (Rice County) c. 1917 159-5225-0006 132 N. Broadway Sterling, Kansas 67579 Owner: City of Sterling Lots 182,184,186,188 on Broadway.

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25. Washburn University Carnegie Library Building c. 1904 177-5400-0017 (Shawnee County) (Education Building) Topeka, Kansas 66621 Owner: Washburn University of Topeka SW1/4, NW 1/4, NE 1/4, SW1/4, S1,T12, R15E 0013 c. 1916 191-5730-0012 26. Wellington Carnegie Library (Sumner County) 121 W. Seventh Wellington, Kansas 67152 Owner: City of Wellington Lots 13,14,15,16,17; Block 53. c. 1915 173-5880-0004 27. Wichita City (Carnegie) Library Building (Sedgwick County) 220 S. Main Street Wichita, Kansas 67202 Owner: City of Wichita Lots 24,26,28,30,32,34,36 & 1/2 Vac. Alley Adj. on E. & Vac. Alley Ly. N. Lot 24 Exc. Beg. SE Cor. Lot 34 W 33.98 Ft. N. 100.56 Ft. W. 16.75 Ft. N. 9 Ft. Nwly. 15.36 Ft. W. 6.5 Ft. N. 10 Ft. W. 49 Ft. S. 25 Ft. W. 25 Ft. N. 58.66 Ft. E. to Cen. Li. Vac. Alley on E. Th. S. 115.56 Ft. W. 8 Ft. to SE Cor. Lot 30 S. to Beg. Main St. Greiffenstein's Add. 207-6010-0007 c. 1912 28. Yates Center (Carnegie) Library (Woodson County) 218 N. Main Yates Center, Kansas 66783 Owner: City of Yates Center Lots 4,5,6; Block 27.

#### INVENTORY:

1. Eureka Carnegie Library (Greenwood County) 073-1740-0013 c. 1914 520 North Main Eureka, Kansas 67045 Owner: City of Eureka

Legal: Lots 16, 17, 18; Block 39.

2. Independence Public (Carnegie) Library (Montgomery County)
220 East Maple
Independence, Kansas 67301
Owner: City of Independence
Legal: E 40', Lot 17 and all of Lot 18; Block 5 - 446-53

3. Winfield Public (Carnegie) Library (Cowley County)
1001 Millington Street
035-5970-0027
Winfield, Kansas 67156
Owner: City of Winfield
Legal: E 90' of Lots 17 & 18; Block 130; Original Townsite.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899X 1900–	archeology-historic	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics X education engineering exploration/settlementindustry invention	law literature military music	re religion science sculpture _X social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	c. 1902-1921	Builder/Architect Mu	ltiple	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Carnegie Libraries of Kansas (c. 1902-1921) are being nominated to the National Register as part of a thematic resources nomination at the local level of significance under criteria A and C for their historical association with the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program and for their architectural significance as a new building type. Sixty-three Carnegie funded libraries were built in Kansas during the first three decades of the Twentieth Century; four of these libraries were built on college campuses. In most cases, the Carnegie funded library represented the community's first library building although many Kansas communities had book clubs and library organizations well before the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program was founded. In the case of the four college libraries, the building represented the first structure which was solely devoted to housing the institution's books and providing study space. Carnegie did not solicit interest in the program, with the exception of the Anderson (Carnegie) Memorial Library which was built by Carnegie as a memorial to his friend John Anderson and was the first college library nationally to receive Carnegie funding. Communities initiated contact with the corporation by letter, indicating their desire for a Carnegie funded library. If the Corporation responded favorably to the request, a firm local commitment to the program's requirements, which generally resulted in a public election in support of the library, followed. Obviously these actions represented a perceived need within the community for a library building and the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program represented an excellent way to secure the funds to build one. Many of the Carnegie Libraries built in Kansas reflect the high space utilization design guidelines promoted by the Carnegie Corporation after 1910, underscoring the point that before the Carnegie Corporation Library Building Program, few architects and/or builders had experience designing this building type.

Twenty-eight Carnegie Libraries are included in this nomination (see inventory). Twelve Carnegie Libraries have been listed individually on the National Register: Argentine, Case Library (Baker University, Baldwin City), Caldwell, Dodge City, Emporia, Goodland, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Newton, Ottawa, Parsons, and Pittsburg. The Carnegie Library at Arkansas City is included in a downtown historic district. Thirteen Carnegie Libraries have been demolished: Great Bend, Halstead, Hays, Iola, Kansas City, McPherson, Morrison Library (Fairmont College, Wichita), Olathe, Osawatomie, Plainville, Russell, Salina, and Washington. Five Carnegie Libraries have been altered enough to make them ineligible for the National Register: Abilene, Garden City, Hiawatha, Lyons, and Stockton. (The nominations for the Concordia, Eureka, Independence, and Winfield libraries were deferred.) Twenty-two of the nominated libraries retain their original function. All of the buildings are in use or have an active use planned for them. The nominated libraries maintain a high to moderate degree of architectural and structural integrity.

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## **United States Department of the Interior**National Park Service

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Industrialist Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) and the Carnegie Corporation significantly influenced the development and expansion of public library systems worldwide. Between 1886 and 1921 Carnegie funds assisted in the construction of 1,681 city and 108 college libraries in the United States. As a region, the Mid-West, Kansas included, did not have a well established public library system until the Carnegie Program and ranks highest in the number of communities which obtained Carnegie Libraries nationwide. Out of the forty-six states to participate in the library building program, Kansas ranks approximately eleventh in the number of Carnegie Libraries built. For many Kansas communities, the Carnegie Library represented its first library building, providing an environment that all members of the community could share for the purposes of reading, learning, and education.

Eligibility for Carnegie Library funds rested on several factors. Firstly, the population of the community had to exceed 1,000; in Kansas this indicated at least a second class city status. This population requirement generally resulted in county seat communities applying for and receiving Carnegie Libraries. Some communities with populations less than 1,000 banded together with neighboring communities to achieve the 1,000 mark and applied for township libraries, as in the case of the Peabody and Canton Township libraries. In the case of college libraries this constraint may not have applied, although the four Kansas colleges to receive Carnegie libraries were located in cities which had populations in excess of 1,000 by 1900. Secondly, the applicant had to provide a site for the library. The sites tended to be one or two blocks outside of the community's main business district. Thirdly, the applicant had to provide an annual endowment for the maintenance and improvement of the library which amounted to at least ten percent of the initial grant from the Carnegie Corporation.

This last factor contributed to the ending of the Carnegie Library Building Program in 1917, although grants for books and other improvements continued for several more decades. An inherent problem for second class cities in Kansas was the .4 mill levy restriction for libraries, making it difficult for some communities to meet the annual ten percent maintenance appropriation solely through public dollars. In 1917 the Kansas State legislature increased the library levy to .5 mill for second and third class cities, an amendment which affected most of the communities in the State that had Carnegie Libraries. In 1916, large communities such as Topeka, Wichita, Hutchinson, and Leavenworth had library mill levies of 1.06, 1.2, 1.8, and 3.5 respectively. In Kansas, the average public library grant was \$12,000 and the average college library grant was \$37,000. These monies covered the cost of the building, the necessary furniture and fixtures, and the architects' fees.

Prior to 1910, the Carnegie Corporation did not provide design guidelines for the libraries that it funded and because the library was a relatively new building type, few architects and/or builders had experience with its design. Many of the early libraries were expensive examples of the Beaux Arts style with little focus on floor plan and space efficiency. In 1910, Carnegie's personal secretary James Bertram developed model

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specifications and floorplans for proposed libraries, entitling his work <u>Notes on Library Buildings</u>. The <u>Notes on Library Buildings</u> provided the first widely circulated guidelines for library design in this country.

#### Bertram wrote:

Small libraries should be pland (sic) so that one librarian can oversee the entire library from a central position.... The bilding (sic) should be devoted exclusively to: (main floor) housing of books and their issue for home use; comfortable accomodations for reading them by adults and children; (basement) lecture room; necessary accommodation for heating plant; also all conveniences for the library patrons and staff. Experience seems to sho (sic) that the best results for a small general library are obtained by adopting the one-story and basement rectangular type of bilding (sic), with a small vestibule entering into one large room sub-divided as required by means of bookcases.... The rear and side windows may be kept about six feet from the floor, to giv (sic) continuous wall space for shelving. A rear wing can be added for stack-room (when future need demands it) at a minimum expense, and without seriously interfering with the library servis (sic) during its construction. The site chosen should be such as to admit lite (sic) on all sides, and be large enuf (sic) to allow extension, if ever such should become necessary.

The twenty-eight nominated libraries and the thirty-six total libraries built in Kansas after 1910 reflect Bertram's precedents, exhibiting high space utilization, and often including full basements, although the raised basement is a design element employed in the earlier libraries as well. Most of these one-story libraries exhibit a three bay, Neo-Classical facade with a projecting central pedimented entry pavilion and are one bay deep. The use of native limestone is evident in some of the libraries but the most common material combination is brick with a limestone foundation. While there is some tendency toward a vernacular interpretation to the design ornamentation of these libraries, the general approach verges on high style.

That the Neo-Classical was employed so frequently for Carnegie Libraries allies its adaptability to the precepts of Bertram's models. However, Bertram's main concern was focused on the floor plan and space efficiency of a library rather than the actual ornamentation. Perhaps the answer to the prolificacy of the Neo-Classical in Carnegie Library design lies in the acceptability of that style by the common man and woman as the correct library style. Interestingly, the model Kansas Carnegie Library, the Anthony Public (Carnegie) Library, is Jacobethan, a less main stream style for the 1910s than the Neo-Classical.

Correspondence between the Carnegie Corporation and the library boards from the Kansas communities that received Carnegie Libraries indicates that the designs for these libraries were carefully scrutinized by Bertram and in many cases, were resubmitted

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several times before meeting his requirements. Upon the completion of a library, the library board was instructed to send a full set of blueprints and elevations of the building to the Corporation. However, recent correspondence between the Kansas State Historical Society and the Carnegie Corporation reveals that the Corporation does not have blueprints of the Kansas libraries. The Corporation does have some library photographs but the collection is not inclusive.

Three architects were particularly active in the design of Kansas Carnegie Libraries: George P. Washburn of Ottawa, Kansas designed nine, A. T. Simmons of Bloomington, Illinois designed six, and William Warren Rose of Kansas City, Kansas designed four. Washburn's libraries are primarily of the standard three-bay, Neo-Classical variety. His firm is credited with the Carnegie libraries in Burlington, Canton, Cherryvale, Columbus, Eureka, Halstead, Osawatomie, Ottawa, and Sterling. Simmons engaged in a more eclectic approach, designing libraries in Abilene, Chanute, Council Grove, Downs, Hays and Yates Center. Rose is credited with the classically inspired libraries in Argentine, Kansas City, Manhattan, and Newton. In Kansas, many Kansas based architects were commissioned to design Carnegie Libraries as well as architects from Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, and Texas.

Today, many of the state's Carnegie Libraries are facing serious space shortages. The alternatives of adding on or vacating both present preservation problems. Additions to these libraries must be such that the building's original character is not altered. Vacating the library for a larger facility leaves the problem of an empty building, in some communities county historical societies have inherited the empty Carnegie Library. In any event, when these buildings are no longer recognized from a design standpoint as Carnegie Libraries, their architectural significance ceases.

# 9. Major Biblic raphical Referenc

See attached sheet.

GPO 911-399

10. Geographical Da	ła
Acreage of nominated property See individ  Quadrangle name See individual forms	
UTM References See individual forms	
A	B
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
c	
E	FILLLILLI
	HILLIIII
	No. of the latest the
Verbal boundary description and justificat	non
See individual forms	
List all states and counties for properties	overlanning state or county houndaries
state N/A code	
state N/A code	N/A county N/A code N/A
11. Form Prepared B	V
organization Kansas State Historical S	date April 21, 1987  telephone 913-296-5264
city or town Topeka	state Kansas 66612
12. State Historic Pr	eservation Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this property withi	
As the designated State Historic Preservation Of 665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion according to the criteria and procedures set forth State Historic Preservation Officer signature	on in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89—on in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated the by the National Park Service.
title Executive Director, Kansas	State Historical Society date April 21, 1987
For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is include	ed in the National Register
	date
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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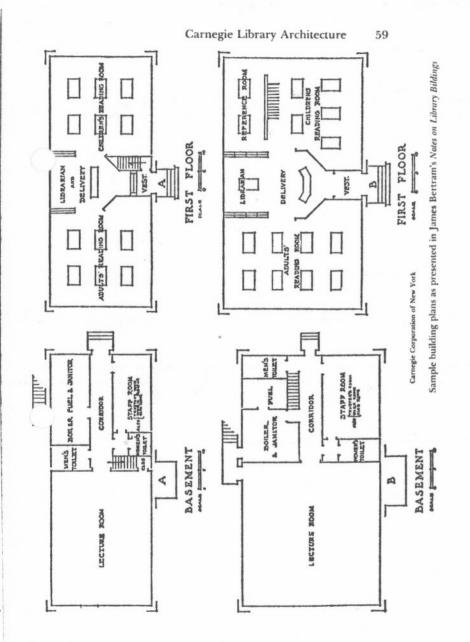
9

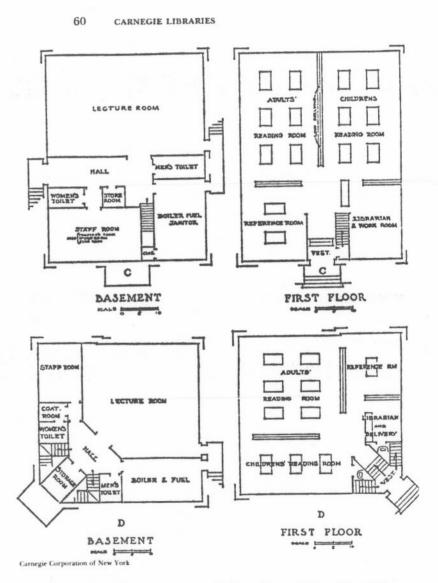
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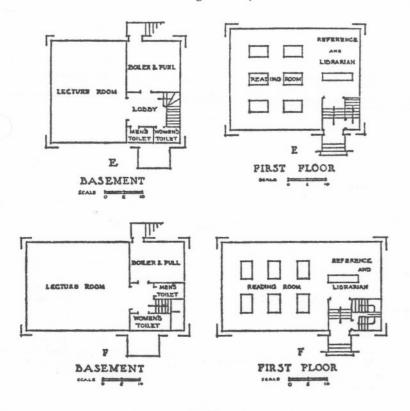
Carnegie Library Bibliography:

- Anderson, Florence. <u>Carnegie Corporation Library Program</u>, 1911-1961. (New York: Carnegie Corporation, 1963).
- Bertram, James. Notes on Library Building. (New York: Carnegie Corporation, 1910).
- Bobinski, George S. <u>Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development</u>. (Chicago: American Library Association, 1969).
- Carnegie Corporation. Micro-film reels of correspondence between the Corporation and Kansas Carnegie Library Communities, 1902-1921. Carnegie Corporation of New York.
- Gardiner, Allen. The Carnegie Legacy in Kansas: A Retrospective View of the 59 Public Libraries Built by Andrew Carnegie; A Souvenir Publication to Commemorate the Sequicentennial of Carnegie's Birth. (Topeka: Kansas State Library, 1985).
- \_\_\_\_\_. <u>Kansas Public Libraries from Abilene to Zenda</u>. (Topeka: Kansas State Library, 1982).
- Koch, T. W. A Book of Carnegie Libraries. (New York: H. W. Wilson, 1917).
- State of Kansas. Session Laws, 1917. Chapter 113. "Limiting Tax Levies in Cities of the Second and Third Class."
- Topeka Capital Journal, 20 December 1916; 26 December 1916.





Sample building plans as presented in James Bertram's Notes on Library Bildings



NOTE

Elevations of plans submitted for approval should clearly sho the stoor and cerling lines of basement and main stoor, and the natural and artistical grade lines. Floor plans should sho, clearly designated, all roof supports and similar obstructions of the accommodation.

Carnegie Corporation of New York

Sample Building Plans as presented in James Bertram's Notes on Library Buildings from George Bobinski's Carnegie Libraries c. 1911
Kansas State Historical Society

1073

Sample Building Plans as presented in James Bertram's Notes on Library Buildings from George Bobinski's Carnegie Libraries
c. 1911
Kansas State Historical Society

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Sample Building Plans as presented in James Bertram's Notes on Library Buildings from George Bobinski's Carnegie Libraries c. 1911
Kansas State Historical Society

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